

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

**STATUS OF THE APPLICATION**

Claims 1-19, 24, and 32-39 were pending in this application and examined. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 15, 16, 18, 24, 32, 34, and 35 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise (Unexamined Japanese Patent JP 10240641A Machine Assisted Translation) and DeLaHuerga (US Patent No. 6,779,024). Claims 2, 14, and 17 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, and further in view of Takasaki et al. (Japanese Patent JP 403129990A only English abstract). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga in view of McAlbian (U.S. Patent No. 5,845,261). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, and further in view of Kanevsky et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,334,109). Claims 10 and 33 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, and further in view of Motomiya (U.S. Patent No. 6,189,783). Claims 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, and further in view of Coffin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,429). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, and further in view of Bellegarda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,502,774). Claim 19 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, in further view of Shaw et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,349,297). Claims 36-38 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and DeLaHuerga, and further in view of Markus et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601). Claim 39 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kamise and Motomiya et al.

Claims 1, 15, 16, 24, 32-34 and 36-39 have been amended. Claim 35 has been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 40-44 have been added. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added by the amendments. Claims 1-19, 24, 32-34, and 39-43 remain pending in this application after entry of this amendment.

THE CLAIMS

Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1, as amended, is patentable over the references identified in the Final Office Action. For example, claim 1 recites a feature of communicating a portion of the information provided by the visitor using the at least one input device and the information about the visitor gathered by the at least one sensor to one or more appliances located within the facility. An appliance from the one or more appliances uses the information received from the processor to determine whether the visitor is permitted to use the appliance. In this manner, information about visitors visiting a facility is communicated to networked appliances within the facility and an appliance uses the information to determine if the visitor is permitted to use the appliance. For example, the visitor information may be communicated to a copier and used to determine if the visitor is allowed to use the copier. Information collected about the visitor is thus used to determine permissions for the visitor to use office appliances such as a copy machine (a copy machine is specifically recited in claim 40).

Applicant submits that at least this feature of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Such functionality is not taught or suggested by Kamise or DeLaHuerga. The Final Office Action dated December 7, 2004 contends that col. 5 lines 6-8 and col. 10 lines 3-5 of Motomiya teach the use of an office appliance. Applicant however submits that col. 5 lines 6-8 of Motomiya describe a reader-write that reads or writes information from a park card. Col. 10 lines 3-5 describes an attraction guide function that records history of attractions that a user has visited which is used for succeeding visits. Neither of these sections describes or suggests anything about communicating visitor information to an appliance and the appliance using the information to determine if the visitor is permitted to use the appliance. Motomiya is not concerned about permissions associated with a visitor and thus this feature of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Motomiya.

Accordingly, since this permission feature is not taught by Kamise, DeLaHuerga, or Motomiya, even if the references were combined as suggested by the Office Action, the

resultant combination would not teach or suggest this feature of claim 1. Applicant thus submits that claim 1 is patentable for at least this reason, in addition to others.

Claims 2-19, 24, 32-39 and new claims 40-44

Claim 35 has been canceled without prejudice. New claims 40-44 have been added.

Applicant submits that independent claims 16 and 24 are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 1, and others.

Applicant further submits that dependent claims 2-15, 32-34, and 36-43 which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, are allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 1, and others. Dependent claims 17-19 which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 16, are allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 16, and others. Furthermore, the dependent claims recite additional features which, contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, are also not taught or suggested by the references cited in the Final Office Action making the claims patentable for additional reasons. For example, newly added claims 40-44 recite additional features that are not taught or suggested by the cited references.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

*S. B. Kotwal*

Sujit B. Kotwal  
Reg. No. 43,336

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400  
Fax: 650-326-2422  
SBK:km  
60437725 v1.